STUDENT VOICE SYMPOSIUM

10am - 4pm
Monday, 29 January 2018
Berrill Lecture Theatre and Foyer
The OU Students Association is hosting our second Student Voice Symposium. This event will explore different activities surrounding Student Engagement, Voice and Representation at the Students Association and The Open University.

The event is split into three parts, and attendees are welcome to attend the whole event or the segments throughout the day.

This event will also be broadcast via Stadium – and the link will be published on oustudents.com and OU Life.

All attendees on the day will also receive a refreshment voucher to be used within a week at the Open University Hub or Berrill Café.

Please get in touch with student-voice-team@open.ac.uk for further information
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.20 - 10.30</td>
<td><strong>Welcome and Introductions</strong>&lt;br&gt; Lorraine Adams - Vice President Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.30 - 10.55</td>
<td><strong>Student Consultation</strong>&lt;br&gt; Rachel Garnham, Student Consultation Manager&lt;br&gt; Student consultation is one of the ways in which The Open University seeks to hear and respond to the student voice. Using a series of online forums and face-to-face meetings, we consult on key issues for the University alongside topics nominated by students. We then report back to students on how their feedback has been considered and any actions taken as a result. This presentation will outline some of the key features of student consultation and how we seek to address the challenges faced when consulting with and responding to OU students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.00 - 11.25</td>
<td><strong>Research at the OU Students Association</strong>&lt;br&gt; Caroline Poppenga VP Representation and Research, Pooja Sinha Research and Information Officer&lt;br&gt; This session will offer an overview of how we are developing our research work at the Students Association. We will talk about how students are involved in research and give a few examples of current and past projects. We hope this session will create more dialogue around engaging with student feedback and highlight ways in which you can get involved.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
11.30 - 11.55  The Student Engagement Project
Jan Campbell-Wood
Student Engagement Project Manager
Student engagement can be defined as the range of ways in which students are active participants in shaping their educational experience. The University values student engagement because:

- Individually and collectively students are the University’s partners;
- It promotes a sense of belonging and community; and
- It results in the improvement of the educational experience.

Find out more about the work of the Student Engagement Project and its five exciting initiatives:

The Student Voice Website – a ‘one stop shop’ for students including areas such as ‘How we listen’; ‘You said, we did’; and ‘Get involved’.

StudentIdeas – a pilot platform to crowd source students’ ideas and allow them to vote and comment on each other’s ideas.

Student Partner Scheme – student led mini-projects to enhance the student experience.

Graduate Internship Scheme – paid graduate internships at the Open University for recent OU graduates.

Student Shadowing Scheme – opportunities for students to shadow members of OU staff.
12.30 - 12.55  Building our Student Community

Stephanie Stubbins VP Community
Cherry Day VP Equal Opportunities
Peter Turner Head of Community

In this session we explore the challenges of building a vibrant and supportive student community with over 170,000 students based worldwide. You will be able to take a look at the work that the Students Association delivers in order to develop and support its diverse and thriving communities, and why they are important to each individual student.

1.00 - 1.25  Student Partnerships to develop Library Services

Selena Killick, Senior Library Manager
(Quality & Student Insight)

Library Services have a long established culture of student engagement, working in partnership with students to understand their expectations of our service and shaping the support we provide to meet these needs. In this session we will share with you how we have developed our Library Student Panel community, working with us on new projects and initiatives. We will also discuss recent research we’ve conducted and how this has been used to inform our practice. In the past year this has included a comprehensive review of our online tuition, evaluation of a new user interface for our search tool, and a review of the University Referencing policy.
1.30 - 1.55  **Defining Academic Representation**  
Lorraine Adams - VP Education  
Peter Cowan - VP Admininstraton  
Philippa Costello - Representation Officer  
What does ‘academic representation’ really mean, and does understanding of it differ between students and staff? Why are students involved in departmental and institution-level decision making, and what good does it do? In this session, we will explore what formal Academic Representation means at the OU, and how you can take advantage of Students Association volunteers to ensure that you are working in partnership with students when opportunities arise.

2.30 - 2.55  **eSTeEM**  
**Engaging students within scholarship**  
Diane Butler, Deputy Director eSTeEM  
eSTeEM is the STEM Faculty's centre for STEM pedagogy. Established in 2010, we aim to bring together academics to promote innovation, scholarship and enterprise in STEM open and distance learning. Our portfolio of projects includes work on assessment, technologies for STEM learning and improved methods of student support. Many of our scholarship projects focus on how we can enhance the student experience with projects ranging from investigations into learning journeys of students between levels, to novel approaches to improving accessibility of graphical data. This session will outline some of the eSTeEM projects, their methodologies, findings and impact, and explore potential ways to engage students more within the work of eSTeEM.
### Agenda: Student Voice Symposium

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.00 – 3.25</strong></td>
<td><strong>Students in Transformation</strong>&lt;br&gt;Nicci Simpson - President&lt;br&gt;Barbara Tarling – Student Council Member&lt;br&gt;Several members of the Students Association Executive Committee are part of working groups and committees surrounding the Transformation Project. In this session they will share their experiences of being involved in the reinvention of the open university, and share their thoughts as to how the project can have meaningful student engagement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.30 - 3.55</strong></td>
<td><strong>Engaging Students in Innovation</strong>&lt;br&gt;Elizabeth Ellis, Senior Product Development Manager&lt;br&gt;Alice Gallagher, Senior Product Development Manager&lt;br&gt;Elizabeth and Alice are Senior Product Development Managers in the Learning Innovation team, part of the Technology-Enhanced Learning (TEL) area of Learning and Teaching Innovation (LTI). Their work, although focused on some of the most innovative, future-facing projects in the university, has not traditionally had direct contact with students. The team recognised just how crucial student involvement in these projects was, and since 2016 have sought to change this. In their talk they will share the initiatives, research activities and engagement opportunities they have created, including:&lt;br&gt;  - staff/student hack day&lt;br&gt;  - setting up the curriculum design student panel&lt;br&gt;  - student survey into study behaviours&lt;br&gt;  - student workshops.&lt;br&gt;They will also share some new and exciting areas of research they are involved in, and the ways in which staff and students can get involved.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>